

NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR
ABORTION AND ABORTION IN-
SURANCE FULL DISCLOSURE
ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. This bill specifically prohibits the expenditure of Federal funds for any abortion, and clarifies that no federal funds can be used for any health benefits coverage that includes coverage for abortions. While I believe that the Stupak amendment to the health care reform legislation codified the Hyde amendment, I believe that this bill provides extra measures to ensure Federal funds are not used for abortion.

As a society, I believe that we have a responsibility to safeguard the lives of those who are unable to protect themselves. H.R. 7 takes important steps to limiting the instances where the rights of the unborn are violated. This bill ensures that no public funding is used to pay for health care plans that include abortion coverage, and it restricts tax credits from applying to health care plans that include abortion coverage in its benefits package.

The bill does make important exemptions to these prohibitions that protect the health of mothers. The prohibitions will not apply to pregnancies that result from rape or incest or in instances where a mother's life is in danger. I believe that these exemptions provide a good balance in ensuring human life is respected.

As a strong and consistent prolife supporter, I believe that our government has an obligation to protect the lives of our country's most vulnerable citizens. I strongly support H.R. 7 and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

RECOGNIZING MS. MYRON WEBB

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and unparalleled service of Ms. Myron Webb, a 28-year NASA veteran who devoted her time at the agency to Stennis Space Center, and was recently awarded the prestigious NASA Distinguished Service Medal.

The Distinguished Service Medal is a rare honor, recognizing individuals who have made a profound and indelible impact on NASA mission success. Ms. Webb joins such luminaries as Neil Armstrong, James Webb, and John Glenn.

Ms. Webb's profound commitment to Stennis, NASA, and her community are exemplified throughout her distinguished career and volunteer accomplishments. Among her incredible achievements, Ms. Webb is responsible for instituting viewing of the Space Shuttle Main Engine tests at Stennis, marketing and expanding Mississippi's Travel Attraction of the Year, the StennisSphere, and serving on the Board of Directors for both the Gulf Coast and Hancock County Chambers of Commerce.

The success of Stennis Space Center is inseparable from the leadership and service of Myron Webb. Her extraordinary contributions to NASA and Mississippi deserve this highest recognition of the Distinguished Service Medal. Myron, on behalf of the United States Congress, I thank you for your remarkable contributions to our national space program.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEVE
PILIBOS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Steve Pilibos who lived a long and fulfilling life of 102 years. Steve was a pillar in the community, and his support, dedication, and commitment to the success of the Central Valley region will be greatly missed.

Steve grew up in Fresno, California and was the youngest of six children. His parents, Yeprem and Mary, were first generation immigrants from the Ottoman Empire. Growing up in an immigrant family with five siblings, Steve quickly developed fundamental values and principles. Most everyone would agree that Steve was an extremely courteous and fair businessman. He understood the importance of treating others with respect, compassion, and consideration.

From a young age, Steve recognized the significance of hard work. As an adolescent, Steve would sell produce to local businesses before school each day. Prior to Steve becoming a successful entrepreneur, he earned degrees in philosophy and poetry from Fresno State College, and he continued his education at the University of Southern California where he earned his law degree.

In the 1950s, Steve and his older brother, Alex, began what would soon become one of the largest cantaloupe operations in California. They experimented with new varieties of melon seeds from Syria, and ultimately produced a sweet melon with a thinner rind and smaller seed cavity that quickly became popular.

In addition to his contributions to the agriculture industry, Steve worked tirelessly to redevelop the City of Fresno's downtown. He opened the Hilton Hotel in the heart of downtown. Steve hosted many famous singers and bands, and it was a place where people wanted to be. Steve made many investments in downtown Fresno, but he also established developments throughout the entire city.

In 1949, Steve married the love of his life, Lucille. They raised five children: Sarah, Catherine, Barbara, Mary, and Alex. Steve valued spending time with his family and enjoyed reciting poetry to his children. He had a love for the outdoors and would spend his free time hunting or horseback riding. Steve's children, six grandchildren, relatives, and friends have an outstanding role model that they will hold in their hearts forever.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor the life of Steve Pilibos. His presence will be greatly missed, but his legacy will surely live on in the City of Fresno.

SUPPORT FOR THE CIRCASSIAN
PEOPLE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concerns regarding the Sochi Olympics. A number of issues have been raised regarding the misguided decision to host the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, from LGBT rights to the real threat of terrorism. However, I would like to discuss an issue which has not received the same level of attention: the historical mistreatment of the Circassian people by Russia.

The Circassians are an ethnic group originating in the North Caucasus region. Sochi is located in the historical nation of Circassia, which was conquered by the Russian Empire in a series of wars during the 18th and 19th centuries. In fact, Sochi served as the last capitol of Circassia.

Following their defeat in 1864, 90 percent of the Circassian population was forcibly deported or killed and Circassia was annexed by Russia. Hundreds of thousands of Circassians were exiled from their homeland, never to return.

Millions of Circassians are now spread around the world in diaspora communities, while only about 700,000 Circassians remain within their ancestral homeland, now a part of the Russian Federation.

Given this history, it is deeply disrespectful to the Circassian community for the Russian government to use Sochi as a stage to promote themselves to the world. Although I condemn the decision to hold the Olympics in Sochi, this year's Winter Olympics present the opportunity to raise the world's awareness of the historical injustices perpetrated by Russia against the Circassian people and homeland.

Today, Circassians worldwide strive to achieve the right of return to their homeland, and seek to gain self-determination and a revival of their language and culture. I am proud to represent a large and active Circassian-American community within New Jersey's Ninth Congressional District.

Colleagues, I urge you to join me in condemning the Sochi Olympics and celebrating the contributions of the Circassian people to the United States of America.

IN HONOR OF THE STUDENT LEADERS'
VON NIEDA PART TASK
FORCE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Student Leaders' Von Nieda Park Task Force for their efforts in continuing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy by coordinating their 5th annual MLK Day of Community Organizing.

These South Jersey students choose to celebrate the life of Dr. King not simply through remembrance, but by following in his footsteps. These leaders honor the memory of Dr. King engaging their fellow youth in community